

BMCCF 16.2

3/01/02



Sylvia Burges

03/01/02 12:32 PM

To: Linda Meyer/R10/USEPA/US@EPA

cc:

Subject: Re: interviews

FYI

Sylvia Burges
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----- Forwarded by Sylvia Burges/R10/USEPA/US on 03/01/2002 12:32 PM -----

Susan Skinner

03/01/2002 12:27 PM

To: Sylvia Burges/R10/USEPA/US@EPA

cc:

Subject: Re: interviews

That looks like what I have as well. Jay also said that if you answered yes on the original job application as to whether you had worked on a farm, had shot firearms or been in the military, they would not pay for hearing loss (no baseline was established for new workers.) (mentioned in context of fairness issue) He also mentioned that Ann Katsyllavedas (sp?) was the industrial nurse at FMC and was fired for protecting workers. He did not know if she was still alive.

Do we have historical aerial photos of the slag pile in our EPA files? On a landfill project I was working on BLM's service center acquired photos from Russia (the landfill was within 2 miles of Nellis Air Force Base so no coverage historically was available in the U.S. We could actually identify the size of a truck and pinpoint where liquid hazardous wastes were being dumped, then using GPS found the location in the field where we verified solvent disposal using soil gas probes. By using the historical photo, warping it to the same scale as a photo today, transferring location data to today's photo and GPS locating historical features now covered, it was very useful to find these buried features in the field. BLM used a contract with TRW to do this on an explosive factory site too.

thanks for getting back. Talk to you soon.

S

Sylvia Burges



Sylvia Burges

03/01/02 09:41 AM

To: Susan Skinner/R10/USEPA/US@EPA

cc:

Subject: interviews

here's what I've got so far


worker interviews.wpd

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Discussions w/ former workers

2/27/02

William J. (Jay) Philips [REDACTED]. Worked there 26 yr (6 yrs furnace bg, then 20 yr in boiler room maintenance); retired in late 92; feels workers poorly treated

maintenance bldg lunch room aerial photo (mid-50's or 60's) - slag pile phos cars - 15 -20 buried; disappeared in last few yrs.; cars already up there when he went to work there, heard at least 2 are full of 'phos'

covered ditches in front of furnace bg - phos slurry ran into sumps - often overflowed-- he cleaned up overflowed material into 55 gal drums - buried in slag pile

transformers and ppt oil PCB - routine maintenance practice, when changing it they dumped it into 200 + gal drums w/ valve; crane picked it up and emptied onto all dirt rds. - eg, to ponds, to slag pile - for dust suppression

big cement tanks under phos dock - sludge + water from RR cars - settled out and got workers to dig it out and put into barrels that went to slag pile thru late '92.

Jeff Duncan [REDACTED]

worked at plant 22yrs [79-8/01]

Hearsay, but he's heard it from lots of folks: back in ~1970's, a derailed phos car [full of product] was placed into slag pile. Mike Heath, who was hired about the same time, told him that his dad [now dead] told him exactly where it was. Others also know, eg Bob Hornick [worked in yard ~ 40 yrs]. Mike [REDACTED].

March 1, 2002

Charles Davis [REDACTED]

former Mfg supervisor for Monsanto plant in Soda Springs - for 25 yrs; retired several years ago

Monsanto had ~ plant in TN, closed about 85 or 86- did great job on restoration - fishing in ponds, bird habitat, etc

would like to do anything he can to help us w/ closure - sees FMC ponds as big concern, lots of p4 in ponds; technology is available to clean that stuff up-- eg batch still - used to by Monsanto to recover p4

Didn't say he was looking for \$\$; I didn't ask directly

March 4, 2002

Fred Olds [REDACTED]

worked there 35 yrs

phossy water - spill off phos dock - during upsets, ran N across black top, across shale track to shale dumper pool behind dumper - depression near Simplot - btw Union Pacific tracks and shale empty tracks

rehab of #2 or #3 furnace - p4 sump - large hole - accounting for p4 didn't match; pour concrete to enlarge footings under columns that support H beams - large holes couldn't fill - possibly eroded by stream of water w/ p4; edge of furnaces, N edge of crane bay that ran thru S side of furnace bg about half way thru bg - about dead center of bg.

He will be meeting w/ several friends soon and will check w/ them to see if they know anything else that could be of use to us

Is happy to help and would try to sketch locations - I said we'd send a map for him to mark up:

Mike Davis

worked at plant for 16 yrs; plant maintenance

RR cars, 1000's drums of slurry buried in slag pile

2 transformers (15' X 15') full of PCB oil buried w of slag pit behind - on flat ground btw furnace bg and mobile shop, probably under the road now; used to store electrodes there, under overhead slurry lines - near fuel island

overflows of slurry from phos dock sump - head N to RR tracks, build up near tracks, created sink hole (undermining RR tracks) buried under dirt and slag - continued until about 5 or 6 yrs ago - slurry water smoking on asphalt

steam cleaner 100 feet behind mobile shop - steaming off heavy equipment that had slurry built up on it - phossy water went onto ground, made hole; put slag on top

fuel island - lost 4-600 gal of diesel fuel about a year or so ago - need to look for contamination around fuel island

dump - P4 material kept going into it; oil filters dumped up there, oily rags, etc. until about 2-3 years ago